

REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 25-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,774,435 to Levinson.

Claims 1, and 8-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Levinson in view of Applicant's Admitted Prior Art ("AAPA").

Claims 2-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Levinson and AAPA as applied to claim 1, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,215,244 to Kuribayashi et al.

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

Claims 1 and 25 have been amended to describe the invention differently. Claims 14-24 have been withdrawn from consideration. Accordingly, claims 1-13, 25 and 26 are presently pending for consideration on the merits.

All Claims Comply with 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 25-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Levinson (U.S. Patent No. 4,774,435). To the extent that this rejection is considered to apply to amended claim 25, the rejection is traversed as being based upon a reference that does not

anticipate all of the features now clearly recited in claim 25. For example, claim 25 now requires, amongst other features, “a lower electrode layer having a first surface in contact with the smooth surface of the substrate and a second surface with an uneven surface profile. In another example, claim 25 now requires “an upper electrode layer formed directly on the light-emitting layer, having an uneven surface profile substantially corresponding to the uneven surface profile of the light-emitting layer.”

In contrast to the presently claimed invention, Levinson discloses a lower electrode 32 on the surface of a substrate 30 having an uneven profile rather than on the smooth surface of a substrate. Further in contrast to the presently claimed invention, the upper electrode 35 of Levinson is formed directly on a dielectric 34 rather than directly on a light emitting layer. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Levinson does not anticipate all of the features recited in claim 25, as amended. Thus, Applicant respectfully asserts that the rejection of claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 should be withdrawn. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully asserts that dependent claim 26 is allowable at least because of its dependence on independent claim 25, as amended, and for the reasons set forth above.

All Claims Comply with 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1, and 8-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Levinson further in view of Applicant’s Admitted Prior Art. To the extent that this rejection is considered to apply to amended claim 1, the rejection is traversed as being based

upon a reference that neither teaches nor suggests the novel combination of features now clearly recited in claim 1, as amended. For example, claim 1 now requires, amongst other features, “a lower electrode layer having a first surface in contact with the smooth surface of the substrate and a second surface with a plurality of convex shapes. In another example, claim 1 now requires “an upper electrode layer formed directly on the light-emitting layer, having an uneven surface profile substantially corresponding to the uneven surface profile of the light-emitting layer.”

Applicant respectfully submits that Applicant’s Admitted Prior Art, whether taken alone or in combination with Levinson, does not cure the above-noted deficiencies of Levinson. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully assert that Levinson and Applicant’s Admitted Prior Art, either singly or in combination, do not teach or suggest all of the features recited in claim 1. Thus, Applicant respectfully asserts that the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 should be withdrawn. Further, Applicant respectfully asserts that dependent claims 8-13 are allowable at least because of their dependence on independent claim 1, as amended, and for the reasons set forth above.

Claims 2-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Levinson and Applicant’s Admitted Prior Art as applied to claim 1, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,215,244 to Kuribayashi et al. Applicant respectfully submits that neither Applicant’s Admitted Prior Art nor Kuribayashi et al. cure the above-noted deficiencies of Levinson. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully asserts that the rejection of claims 2-7 under 35

U.S.C. § 103 should be withdrawn because the combination of Levinson, Applicant's Admitted Prior Art and Kuribayashi et al. neither teaches nor suggests all of the features clearly recited in claim 1, as amended, and therefore dependent claims 2-7.

CONCLUSION

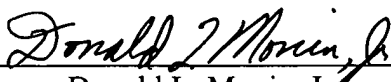
In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of the response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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